



# FORMAL, NON-FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARNING

Here are the basic differences between them.

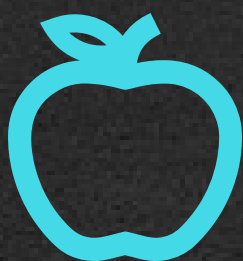
## FORMAL LEARNING



Organized and guided by a formal curriculum. Often guided by government at some level. Teachers often have professional training. Often results in a formal credential such as a diploma or a degree.

Examples: High school diploma or college degree

## NON-FORMAL LEARNING



Usually organized in some way. May or may not be guided by a curriculum. Highly enriching and builds the learner's knowledge and skills. May be led by someone with experience and expertise.

Examples: Continuing education general interest courses, Girl or Boy Scouts.

## INFORMAL LEARNING



No formal curriculum or credits earned. Builds the learner's skills and knowledge, even though no formal credentials are earned or expected. The teacher is someone with more experience such as a parent or friend.

Examples: A parent teaching their child the alphabet or teaching a friend how to sew.

**Simplified explanations.** There are times when the distinctions between different types of learning are not so clear. These explanations give you a general idea of some of the differences, but not all of the nuances. For more information, check out my blog at [www.drsaraheaton.wordpress.com](http://www.drsaraheaton.wordpress.com)

Get more info at:  
<http://wp.me/pNAh3-q2>